IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the sentence on page 1, lines 14-16 of the specification and insert therefor

--This application is a continuation application claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to non-provisional application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652 filed February 17, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part application claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to non-provisional application U.S. Ser. No. 08/788,800 filed January 22, 1997, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to provisional application U.S. Ser. No. 60/093,038 filed January 23, 1996 (which was converted from non-provisional application U.S. Ser. No. 08/589,982 by petition), the entire disclosures of which non-provisional and provisional applications are incorporated herein by reference.--

REMARKS

The above-identified application is a continuation of co-pending application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652. The co-pendency of parent application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652 is maintained by the enclosed petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) to extend the time for response to the outstanding Restriction Requirement in the parent application for a period of five (5) months from July 20, 2000 to December 20, 2000.

The specification, drawings and abstract of the above-identified application are the same as the specification, drawings and absract of parent application U.S. Ser. No. 08/788,800 (now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 5,914,112). The entire disclosure of parent application U.S. Ser. No. 08/788,800 was incorporated by reference in parent application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652 as filed. Thus, there is continuity of disclosure between the above-identified application and parent application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652. As a result of the same incorporation by reference statement, there is continuity of disclosure between parent application U.S. Ser. No. 08/788,800 and (continuation-in-part) application U.S. Ser. No. 09/251,652. Finally, there is continuity of disclosure between provisional application U.S. Ser. No. 60/093,038 and non-provisional